

CONGRATULATING THE Y.O. RANCH ON ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, people leave footprints on the land, but as most private property owners in Texas know, land leaves bigger footprints on people. The brave families that ventured to Texas when Texas was just bare land left an imprint on the land and in the souls of all who live in or around the legacies they leave behind. This is perfectly embodied in the Historic Y.O. Ranch in the heart of the Texas Hill Country. Five generations of the Schreiner family folks have left their indelible prints on the Y.O.

I want to congratulate the Hill Country for taking care of this legend and the Schreiner family for continuing the legacy of the Y.O. Ranch as they join together in their 125th Anniversary Celebration on December 31, 2005.

This legendary ranch sprang from a young man's dream and his family's determination to keep the dream alive. In 1852, 14-year-old Charles A. Schreiner arrived in Texas with his family—18 days later his father died and for the next 2 years Charles helped his family get by. When he turned 16, he enlisted in the Texas Rangers. When he "retired" from the Rangers 2½ years later, Charles took up ranching.

Charles, who was known as Captain Schreiner, began buying up Hill Country property and cattle. During this period, more than 300,000 head of Texas Longhorns bearing his brand trailed up to Dodge City laying the foundation of the Captain's empire. Part of this empire included the present day Y.O. Ranch, which the Captain purchased in 1880.

During his life, the Captain continued to gather land, launch successful enterprises and contribute to his community. In 1917, when he was 79 years old, the Captain divided his holdings, which included 566,000 acres of land, equally among his eight children. Walter R. Schreiner, the Captain's youngest son, was the owner of 69,000 acres located about 40 miles northwest of Kerrville now called the Y.O. Ranch. In 1922, Walter married Myrtle Barton a decision that not only gave the Y.O. a woman's touch, but another leader.

In 1933, Walter died, leaving the Y.O. to his wife, Myrtle and his young son, Charlie III. When Walter died at the height of the Great Depression, Myrtle knew nothing about running the ranch, but circumstances forced her to learn quickly and to learn well. She stepped up to the vast challenge of keeping the legacy alive.

Myrtle relied on her brother-in-laws, Gus and Louie Schreiner. By sticking to cattle, sheep and goats, Myrtle kept the ranch afloat and then some. Not bound by convention, in 1943, Myrtle leased the ranch to Petty Geophysical Engineering, not for oil and gas exploration, but for hunting. She pioneered a practice that has been adopted as an income generator on almost every ranch in Texas and has been a vital part of the Y.O.'s economic picture ever since.

Charlie III grew up on the ranch and learned ranching from the ground up, preparing to take on his share of the responsibility. In the after-

math of the drought of the 50s, Charlie III began his relentless pursuit of Longhorns. He had strong feelings for the animals and the role they'd played in developing the West and the Y.O. but the drought drove home the importance of having a hardy, resilient breed of cattle for tough times in tough country. Charlie III not only built the largest quality Longhorn herd in the world, but recruited other cattlemen to the cause and eventually helped found the Texas Longhorn Breeders Association and is widely credited with single handedly saving the longhorn breed from extinction.

Charlie III also undertook another notable conservation project providing a home to exotic wildlife a business that other ranchers later entered. The first animals released were blackbuck antelope and Aoudad sheep, which proved that higher fences were necessary. Today, the Y.O. is home to more than 60 exotic species, many of which are available for hunting.

Charlie III didn't introduce exotics with the intention of establishing a hunting program, but as the animals thrived and reproduced the numbers had to be managed. Plus, hunting is another source of revenue and is a vital part of the ranch's newest undertaking the people business. Other wildlife includes white-tailed deer, wild hogs, wild turkey, axis deer, eland antelope, sika deer and fallow deer.

Charlie III and his sons, Charlie IV, Walter, Gus and Louis, over the years, diversified into photography safaris, Y.O. Adventure Camp for children, corporate retreats and the Y.O. Ranch Steakhouse in Dallas's West End. But perhaps the biggest foray into this area came in 1986, when the Schreiner family set aside 11,000 acres to be sold as home sites for people who weren't born on the Y.O., but wanted to get to the Hill Country as soon as possible. The Schreiner family has worked hard to make it easy to for people to call the ranch home. Inside the high fence that surrounds Y.O. Ranchlands, buyers can choose from tracts ranging from 50 acres to 125 acres, all of which showcase the Hill Country's rugged beauty.

The ranch, then and now, survived strictly on the skills, creativity and determination of the owners. Fighting off Indians, outlaws, Wars, The Depression, Droughts, Estate Taxes, Divorces and Mother Nature, generations of Schreiners—and now landowners who've "joined the family"—continue to care for the beautiful Hill Country of Texas and preserve Texas's proud ranching heritage.

I wish Charlie IV and the rest of the Y.O. Schreiner family (all 17 of them) the best of luck in the future and am proud to congratulate the Y.O. Ranch on its 125th Anniversary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, on December 13, 2005, I was absent for several votes for personal reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted: vote No. 623, Korean American Day, "yes"; vote No. 624, Presidential \$1 Coin Act, "no"; vote No. 625, Small Public Housing Authority Act, "yes."

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HONORABLE JOHN D. DINGELL'S SERVICE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2005

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the service of a fellow Michigan congressman: the Honorable JOHN DINGELL, who marks today his fiftieth year as a member of this distinguished House of Representatives. The length of his labors is astounding; his constant concern for his constituents is exemplary; and his integrity is simply beyond reproach.

Having been elected to fill the seat and the shoes of his father (who passed away while still in office), Mr. DINGELL has blazed his own path over the past five decades. Impacting virtually every major piece of legislation to be signed into law during the last half century, Mr. DINGELL is one of a handful of lawmakers whose effectiveness does not rely solely on his party being in the majority.

Impressive in both stature and the tenacity with which he pursues his positions, Mr. DINGELL has lent his life to public service. The good citizens of his district and his colleagues here on the Hill are all the better for his tenure; may it long continue.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD A. "ED" PENICHE

HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Edward A. "Ed" Peniche, of Houston, Texas. He has made an immeasurable contribution to America through two outstanding careers—first with the U.S. Army as an airborne soldier, and following his military retirement—achieving advanced degrees that enabled him to embark on a second career as a college professor. This career has been the fulfillment of Ed's childhood dreams for a better life.

Ed was born on June 25, 1925 in Progreso, Yucatan, Mexico. He was the oldest of eight children. His parents were not highly educated, but they instilled in their son the value of an education. To that end, he immigrated to the United States on December 7, 1942 on a student visa to pursue education that was what was not available to him in Mexico.

Ed arrived in Paducah, Kentucky with four dollars in his pocket and stayed with an aunt and uncle while attending high school. During this time, World War II was being fought, and on September 27, 1943, Ed entered active duty with the U.S. Army. He was trained as an airborne infantryman, and served with valor in combat from shortly after D-Day to VE-Day (Victory in Europe.)

Ed is very proud of his airborne training, which instilled in him a "can do" attitude despite all adversities. He served proudly and heroically with the 101st Airborne Division during the Battle of the Bulge, which started on

December 16, 1944. This was the greatest battle in the European Theater of World War II. Victory came with ferocious fighting at a cost of thousands of American casualties, but it provided a opening for General Patton's Third Army to march into the heart of Germany, which ultimately led to the unconditional surrender of the Nazi regime on May 8, 1945.

Ed was in Bastogne for eight days to hold the town despite repeated German ground assaults, continuous artillery and rocket bombardment, sub-zero temperatures, and bad weather conditions that prevented Allied air power from supporting the surrounded Americans. Despite these conditions, the 101st Airborne Division courageously held their ground and General McAuliffe famously replied "Nuts!" to the German Commanding General's offer to accept surrender or face immediate annihilation.

Ed was wounded in combat action on January 3, 1945 at Longchamps, Belgium, for which he received the Purple Heart Medal. He was assigned to a 57 mm anti-tank gun that was credited with knocking out three German tanks, and supported the destruction of seven other enemy tanks before an exploding German shell destroyed Ed's gun. Despite his own wounds, Ed voluntarily exposed himself to enemy fire to report the situation and guide medical aid men to the casualties in his unit. For his heroism on that day, he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device indicating his personal valor in the engagement. Ed was also awarded a second Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in ground combat against enemy forces in the European Theater of Operations.

After the war, Ed served a brief stint in the Mexican Army and was co-founder of their Parachute School. He returned to the U.S. in 1952, and re-enlisted in the U.S. Army. Ed became a U.S. citizen on February 25, 1953, and on October 6 married Lois Dean "Deanie" Baggett of Paducah, KY. They had three sons, John, Carlos and Frank, six grandchildren to complete Ed and Deanie's family circle.

Ed completed his undergraduate degree by taking night courses while he served on active duty. He was awarded an AA degree in Liberal Arts from George Washington University in 1966, and a BGS degree in Political Science and History from the University of Nebraska-Omaha in 1969. An extended tour of duty in Vietnam lasted from January, 1959 to July, 1962. He was awarded the Joint Services Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and Good Conduct Medals prior to his retirement from active duty as a U.S. Army Sergeant First Class in 1970.

Retirement allowed Ed to pursue graduate work full time at Murray State University in Kentucky. He was awarded a MA degree in Spanish-American Literature in 1971. Additional graduate work was done at the University of Virginia and the University of Texas.

Ed was a college professor at Central Virginia Community College in Lynchburg, Virginia for 22 years, and was awarded the title of "Professor Emeritus" on May 14, 1996. He was also a professor at Kingwood College, Texas until he retired from active teaching at the age of 74. He keeps busy by speaking at veterans' events and attending memorial commemorations honoring his fallen comrades at the Battle of the Bulge in Longchamps, Belgium.

Edward A. Peniche is the embodiment of the "American Dream." He achieved his ambi-

tions through hard work and self-motivation, and the tireless support of his wife Deanie. Ed has said on more than one occasion "I am most proud that I lived the American dream. This is the greatest country on earth!"

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to honor Ed Peniche's many lifetime achievements, and wish him and his beloved Deanie much happiness and good health in the years to come.

HONORING THE PERFECT FOOTBALL SEASON OF THE TROUSDALE COUNTY YELLOW JACKETS

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the championship season of the Trousdale County Yellow Jackets. The Yellow Jackets brought their perfect season to an end by winning the 2005 Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association's Class 1A state championship.

Residents of Trousdale County, Tennessee, can be proud of their Yellow Jackets. Through determination and hard work, the team dominated their opponents with five shutouts and finished the season with a perfect 15-0 record.

In the state title game, the Yellow Jackets went on a rampage, scoring seven touchdowns and holding the Union City Golden Tornadoes to only two touchdowns.

Trousdale County High School has a long history of football supremacy. The Yellow Jackets have made the playoffs every year since 1988, and this year's championship win marks the sixth time since state playoffs began in 1969 that the team has won the title.

I commend the Yellow Jackets and their head coach, Clint Satterfield, for a fine season and an outstanding championship win. Kevin Creasy, Phillip Dean, Jackie Dillehay, Jason Dobbs, Jason East, Eric Eden, Adam Keeton, Steve McClain and Ronnie White serve as the team's assistant coaches. Toby Woodmore is Trousdale County High School's principal.

I congratulate all the talented members of the 2005 1A State Champion Yellow Jackets: Dustin Dillehay, Marco Wright, Jared White, Blake Satterfield, Nelson Harper, Samuel Dunn, Terrian Luster, Cal Welch, Creigh Hall, Michael Ring, Blake Merryman, Leroy Wooten, Josh Cunningham, John Scruggs, Justin Payne, Maurice Harris, Kendall Belcher, Kenneth Pedigo, Zach Porter, Derek Dunn, Tim Cunningham, Trondez Burnley, Shane Johns, Curt McGowan, Jeffrey Butcher, Terrance Calhoun, Krieg Story, Phillip White, Austin Dillion and Steven Angel.

A TRIBUTE TO BILL LEWIS

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mr. Bill Lewis, a great American. Mr. Lewis passed away Saturday, No-

vember 26, 2005 at the age of 84. As an outstanding resident of Wilson County and as its first Director of Agriculture, I know that I speak for the masses when I say that he will be greatly missed.

Mr. Lewis was born in Fairmont, North Carolina and attended North Carolina State University where he graduated in 1942 with a degree in Agricultural Education. He served the United States of America from 1942 until 1945 as a member of the Army Air Corps in the Pacific Theater. He was discharged as a Captain.

Mr. Speaker, after leaving the Army Air Corps, Mr. Lewis began work with the Agriculture Extension Service in 1948 as an Assistant County Agent working with Turkish tobacco at North Wilkesboro. Two years later he relocated to Wilson County.

Mr. Lewis served the people of North Carolina his entire life. He established Wilson County's Agriculture Extension program which continues to serve the County well. He served as President of the North Carolina Association of County Agricultural Agents (NCACAA) from 1968-1969 and was also Chairman of NCACAA in 1971. He was a member of the National Committee of Extension programs in 1971. Mr. Lewis also served as Agriculture Advisor to North Carolina Governor Jim Hunt where he was able to ensure North Carolina's agricultural success.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Lewis was awarded for his great contributions to North Carolina agriculture when he was presented with the Distinguished Service Award from Wilson's Kiwanis Club in 1962. Mr. Lewis was also recognized in 1972 by Southern Tobacco Journal and served as Chairman of the extension programs committee of NACAA from 1973 until 1974. Under his Directorship, the Wilson County extension staff was recognized on two occasions by the Epsilon Sigma Phi Fraternity for team work and total performance.

Mr. Speaker, I value this opportunity to pay tribute to such an outstanding citizen. I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the outstanding contributions of Mr. Bill Lewis to the state of North Carolina and to this Nation.

TRIBUTE TO FIRST LIEUTENANT CHRISTOPHER JOHN BUSCAGLIA

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 1LT Christopher John Buscaglia of the 110th Mountain Division of the United States Army. A native of Western New York, Lieutenant Buscaglia exemplifies the character and good will of our community.

Following his graduation from high school, Lieutenant Buscaglia stayed in Buffalo to attend Canisius College. There, he majored in history and excelled academically. Outside of the classroom, he played the French horn in the college band, was a talented photographer for the campus newspaper, and, for three consecutive summers, spent 2 weeks in Mexico City, running a day-camp for neighborhood kids.

Walking through the halls of Canisius, Lieutenant Buscaglia looked like any other student. But if you saw him running down Main Street